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22907 7590 09/30/2008

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005-4051

EXAMINER

RIFA'I, RAMSEY

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3627

DATE MAILED: 09/30/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/027,048	12/20/2001	Rod Walsh	004770.00025	2223

TITLE OF INVENTION: FIXED LENGTH FILTERING TO FILTER CLUSTERS OF DISCRETE SEGMENTS OF DATA

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	12/30/2008

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE** OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

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B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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22907 7590 09/30/2008

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Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/027,048 12/20/2001

Rod Walsh

004770.00025

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TITLE OF INVENTION: FIXED LENGTH FILTERING TO FILTER CLUSTERS OF DISCRETE SEGMENTS OF DATA

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nonprovisional	NO	\$1440	\$300	\$0	\$1740	12/30/2008

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
REFAI, RAMSEY	3627	709-200000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. **Change in Entity Status** (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____
 Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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22907	7590	09/30/2008	EXAMINER	
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD. 1100 13th STREET, N.W. SUITE 1200 WASHINGTON, DC 20005-4051			REFAI, RAMSEY	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3627	
			DATE MAILED: 09/30/2008	

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 770 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 770 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/027,048

Examiner

Ramsey Refai

Applicant(s)

WALSH ET AL.

Art Unit

3627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 08/20/08.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-5,7,8,10-16 and 18-32.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
(b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 06/19/08
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/F. Ryan Zeender/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3627

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

Responsive to Request for Continued Examination filed August 20, 2008. Claims 1, 4, 9, 12-16, and 18-23 were amended. Claims 27-32 were newly added. Claims 1-32 were pending.

After the Examiner's Amendment below, claims 6, 9, and 17 are canceled. **Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-16, and 18-32 are allowed.**

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Wayne Porter on September 24, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please replace the previous claim listings with the following:

1. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus comprising:

a processor configured to execute control logic to perform operations that include receiving, from a client system processing clusters of data found in digital packets, an identification of at least two clusters of discrete segments of data within at least one of said digital packets, wherein a first one of the at least two clusters of data is formatted in accordance with a first protocol and a second one of the at least two clusters of data is formatted in accordance with a second protocol different than the first protocol, and wherein receiving an identification of at least two clusters includes receiving an identification of a protocol of the data and a value; and

processing the identification to select at least two fixed length filters from a plurality of fixed length filters to filter the at least two clusters, wherein each of the selected at least two fixed length filters has an offset value corresponding to a beginning of one of the at least two clusters.

2. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of fixed length filters have a common length.
3. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein each of the plurality of fixed length filters is 2 bytes.
4. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the plurality of fixed length filters is configured so that each of the plurality of fixed length filters has an offset value corresponding to one of the discrete segments of the at least one digital packet.
5. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein at least one of the plurality of fixed length filters has the offset value of 0.
6. **(Canceled)**
7. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further including a filter processor comprising the plurality of fixed length filters.

8. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein the filter processor is configured to execute control logic to perform:

receiving the at least two clusters of the discrete segments of data; and

filtering the at least two clusters of the discrete segments of data with the selected at least two of a plurality of fixed length filters.

9. **(Canceled)**

10. **(Currently Amended)** The apparatus of ~~claim—9~~ claim 1, wherein the protocol comprises DVB-T and the value comprises an IP address.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The apparatus of ~~claim—9~~ claim 1, wherein the processor is configured to execute further control logic to perform:

mapping the identification of the protocol of the data and the value to the at least two clusters of the discrete segments of data.

12. **(Currently Amended)** A method comprising:

receiving, from a client system processing clusters of data found in digital packets, an identification of at least two clusters of discrete segments of data within at least one of said digital packets, wherein a first one of the at least two clusters of data is formatted in accordance with a first protocol and a second one of the at least two clusters of data is formatted in accordance with a second protocol different than the first protocol, and wherein receiving an identification of at least two clusters includes receiving an identification of a protocol of the data and a value; and

processing the identification to select at least two of a plurality of fixed length filters to filter the at least two clusters.

13. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

generating a filter mask that identifies segments of the selected at least two of a plurality of fixed length filters.

14. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

providing filter values.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

generating at least one rule for combining data filtered by the at least two of a plurality of fixed length filters.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, further comprising:

selecting offset values for the at least two of the plurality of fixed length filters.

17. **(Canceled)**

18. **(Currently Amended)** A computer-readable medium containing computer-executable instructions, that when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method comprising:

receiving, from a client system processing clusters of data found in digital packets, an identification of at least two clusters of discrete segments of data within at least one of said

digital packets, wherein a first one of the at least two clusters of data is formatted in accordance with a first protocol and a second one of the at least two clusters of data is formatted in accordance with a second protocol different than the first protocol, and wherein receiving an identification of at least two clusters includes receiving an identification of a protocol of the data and a value; and

processing the identification to select at least two of a plurality of fixed length filters to filter the at least two clusters.

19. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, further including computer-executable instructions, that when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform:

generating a filter mask that identifies segments of the selected at least two of a plurality of fixed length filters.

20. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 19, further including computer-executable instructions, that when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform:

providing filter values.

21. (Previously presented) The computer-readable of claim 19, further including computer-executable instructions, that when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform:

generating at least one rule for combining data filtered by the at least two of a plurality of fixed length filters.

22. (Previously presented) The computer-readable of claim 18, further including computer-executable instructions, that when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform:

selecting offset values for the selected at least two of the plurality of fixed length filters.

23. **(Currently Amended)** A method comprising:

receiving, from a client system processing clusters of data found in digital packets, identification of a first cluster of discrete data in a first segment of a digital packet and a second cluster of discrete data in a second segment of the digital packet, wherein the first cluster of discrete data is formatted in accordance with a first protocol and the second cluster of discrete data is formatted in accordance with a second protocol different than the first protocol, and wherein receiving an identification of the first and second clusters includes receiving an identification of a protocol of the data and a value;

processing the identification of the first cluster of discrete data to select a first fixed length filter having an offset value corresponding to the first cluster from a plurality of fixed length filters to filter the first cluster of discrete data;

processing the identification of the second cluster of discrete data to select a second fixed length filter having an offset value corresponding to the second cluster from the plurality of fixed length filters to filter the second cluster of discrete data; and

providing a cluster map including the first and second fixed length filters.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the cluster map includes the offset value of the first and second fixed length filters.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein none of the plurality of fixed length filters overlap.
26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein all the plurality of fixed length filters overlap.
27. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the client system is a DVB receiver.
28. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the client system is a mobile terminal.
29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the client system is a DVB receiver.
30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 12, wherein the client system is a mobile terminal.
31. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the client system is a DVB receiver.
32. (Previously presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 18, wherein the client system is a mobile terminal.

Reasons for Allowance

- The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art of record neither singularly nor in combination, teach receiving, from a client system processing clusters of data found in digital packets, an identification of at least two clusters of discrete segments of data within at least one of said digital packets, wherein a first one of the at least two clusters of data is formatted in accordance with a first protocol and a second one of the at least two clusters of data is formatted in accordance with a second protocol different than the first protocol, and wherein receiving an identification of at least two clusters includes receiving an identification of a protocol of the data and a value; and processing the identification to select at least two fixed length filters from a plurality of fixed length filters to filter the at least two clusters, wherein each of the selected at least two fixed length filters has an offset value corresponding to a beginning of one of the at least two clusters as taught by claims .

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ramsey Refai whose telephone number is (571) 272-3975. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00 p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ryan Zeender can be reached on (571) 272-6790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3627

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Ramsey Refai
September 24, 2008
/R. R./
Examiner, Art Unit 3627

/F. Ryan Zeender/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3627